

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00234 311342Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 MC-02 ACDA-07 IO-13 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EUR-12 /076 W
-----311405Z 122747 /47

P 311231Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9334
USDAO ABIDJAN
USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 0234

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MMOL MARR DM UR
SUBJ: SOVIET ARMS IN BENIN

1. FOLLOWING IS DESCRIPTION OF TYPES OF SOVIET ARMS POSSESSED BY
PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES. GENERAL DISTRIBUTION OF ARMS FOLLOWED
JANUARY 16 ATTACK ON COTONOU.

2. MOST FREQUENTLY SEEN IS 7.62 MM KALASHNIKOV AUTOMATIC
ASSAULT RIFLE (AKM). MOST COMMON VERSION HAS MAROON PLASTIC
PISTOL GRIP AND CURVED AMMUNITION CLIP MADE OF ORANGE PLASTIC.
ALL WOOD APPEARS TO BE LAMINATED. OTHER VERSIONS SEEM TO HAVE
LARGE METAL CLIP, WOODEN GRIP, FOLDING WIRE STOCK. POST ESTI-
MATES THAT BENINESE HAVE AT LEAST ONE THOUSAND OF THESE ASSAULT
RIFLES, WITH POSSIBILITY OF MORE IN STOCKS.

3. ALSO OBSERVED ARE 7.62 MM KALASHNIKOV LIGHT MACHINEGUNS
(RPK). POST ESTIMATES AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED.

4. LESS FREQUENTLY SEEN ARE 7.62 SIMONOV SEMIAUTOMATIC CARBINES
(SKS). POST ESTIMATES NO MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED HAVE BEEN DIS-
TRIBUTED.

5. POST HAS ALSO OBSERVED A FEW (NO MORE THAN A DOZEN)
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7.62 DEGTYREV LIGHT MACHINEGUNS.

6. AT AIRPORT, AND PRESUMABLY AT OTHER STRATEGIC POINTS,
7.62 MM MACHINEGUNS (PKS) HAVE BEEN SET UP. POST UNABLE TO
SUPPLY NUMBER ESTIMATE.

7. EMBOFFS ALLOWED ENTRANCE AT CAMP GUEZO HAVE OBSERVED LARGE

QUANTITIES OF 7.62 MM AMMUNITION BEING UNLOADED FOR DISTRIBUTION. CENTRAL DUMP SEEMS TO BE AT CAMP.

8. POST CAN OFFER NO CLEAR REPORT ON WEAPONS' MARKINGS.

9. FOR ABIDJAN: LIST OF FRENCH ARMS POSSESSED BY BENIN
BEING POUCHED ABIDJAN. THOMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, SMALL ARMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COTON000234
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770033-1042
Format: TEL
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977014/aaaaactj.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 23ffa2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3565502
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET ARMS IN BENIN
TAGS: MMOL, MARR, DM, UR
To: STATE ABIDJAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/23ffa2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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